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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,468	02/28/2002	Toshiro Shibamura	826.1798	4994

21171 7590 05/06/2004

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EXAMINER

ABEL JALIL, NEVEEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2175

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,468

Applicant(s)

SHIBANUMA ET AL.

Examiner

Neveen Abel-Jalil

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

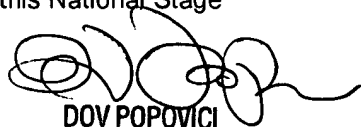
Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-8, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Weight (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0023638 A1).

As to claims 1, 5, 6, and 7, Weight discloses an apparatus generating list display data where contents extracted from registration information are sorted in an order of newer arrivals, a method generating list display data where contents extracted from registration information are sorted in order of newer arrivals, a computer-readable storage medium used by a computer for generating list display data where contents extracted from registration information are sorted in order of newer arrivals (See page 7, lines 15-50, also see abstract, and see figure 6, 614, multi-level directory), on which is recorded a program for causing the computer to execute a process, comprising:

an attribute setting unit setting a display attribute of a list display target for contents of the list display target based on a relationship between a date on which the contents are registered and a current date (See pages 4-5, paragraphs 0055-0057); and

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a data generating unit generating list display data of the contents of the list display target by using the set display attribute (See page 5, paragraphs 0057-0059, also see page 5, paragraphs 0062-0063).

As to claims 2, and 8, Weight discloses wherein said attribute setting unit sets a display attribute of contents whose registered date is the current date as a display attribute that is different from a display attribute of contents whose registered date is a preceding date or earlier (See pages 4-5, paragraph 0056, also see page 5, paragraphs 0064-0065, and see page 1, paragraph 0012).

As to claims 4, and 10, Weight discloses further comprising a data transmitting unit externally transmitting the list display data generated by said data generating unit so that an external device displays the list display data (See page 5, paragraphs 0057-0059).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weight (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0023638 A1) in view of August et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,647,383 B1).

As to claims 3, and 9, Weight does not teach wherein said attribute setting unit sets a display attribute of the contents according to a number of days elapsed from the date on which the contents are registered to the current date.

August et al. teaches wherein said attribute setting unit sets a display attribute of the contents according to a number of days elapsed from the date on which the contents are registered to the current date (See August et al. column 23, lines 7-54, wherein "days elapsed" reads on "expiry dates").

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Weight to include wherein said attribute setting unit sets a display attribute of the contents according to a number of days elapsed from the date on which the contents are registered to the current date.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Weight by the teaching of August et al. to include wherein said attribute setting unit sets a display attribute of the contents according to a number of days elapsed from the date on which the contents are registered to the current date because showing the time elapsed allows for efficient and accurate data storage and presentation and ease of database management.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kondo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,519,865) teaches method for retrieving and classifying data stored in a database.


Chasanoff et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0087579 A1) teaches object universe.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neveen Abel-Jalil whose telephone number is 703-305-8114. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4: 30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Neveen Abel-Jalil
April 21, 2004


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